CDE
COMMANDER DIRECTED EVALUATIONS

Dr. Jack Wagoner

13 Oct. 2000

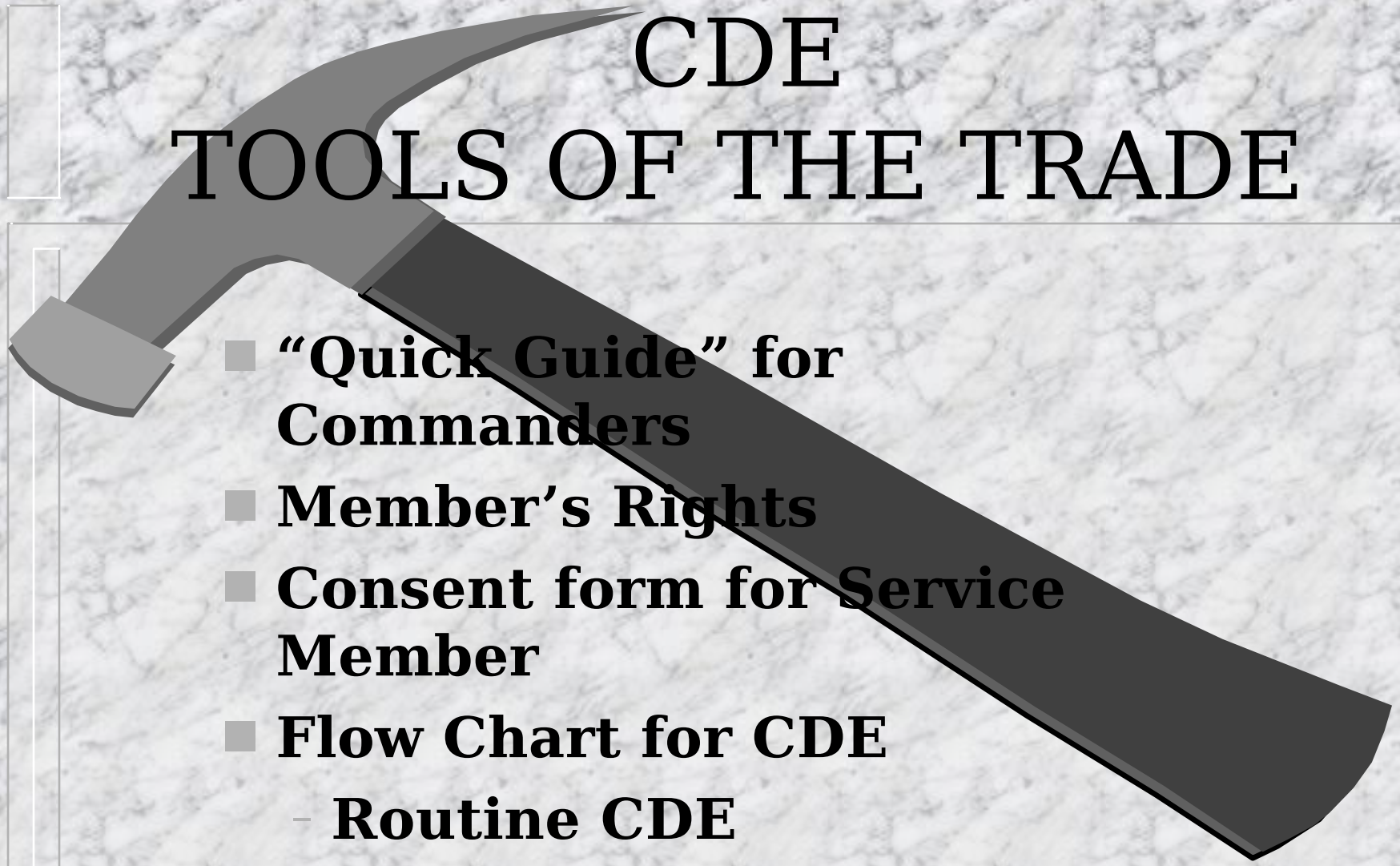
CDE
THE MAIN POINT

- **SAFETY FIRST then**
- **PROTECT MEMBERS RIGHTS**

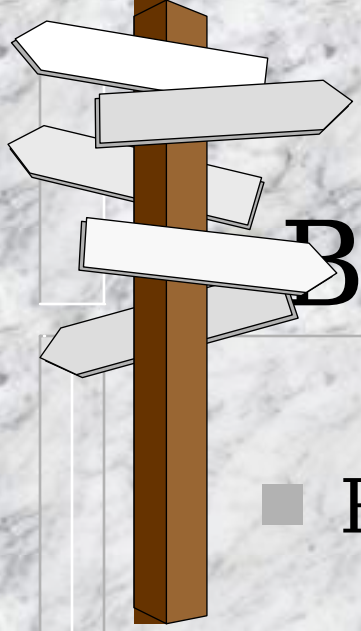
GUIDELINES FOR CDE

- DoDI 6490.1
- DoDD 6490.4
- AFI 44-109
- MGMC OI 44-17

CDE
TOOLS OF THE TRADE

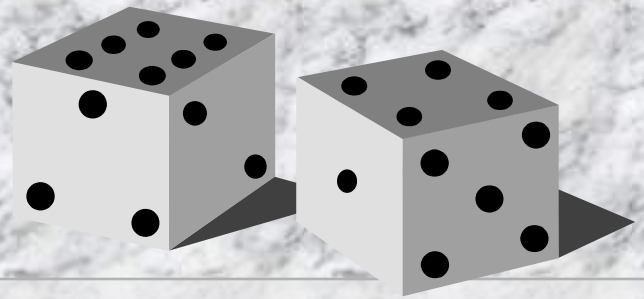


- **“Quick Guide” for Commanders**
- **Member’s Rights**
- **Consent form for Service Member**
- **Flow Chart for CDE**
  - **Routine CDE**
  - **Emergency CDE**



THINGS TO DO
BIG PICTURE for CDE

- RULE OF 2
  - Check for two of these things
    - **C**ONSULTS
    - **L**ETTERS
    - **R**EPORTS
  - **2 DAYS BEFORE**
- TOO (**2**) **CL**ea**R** (Mnemonic)

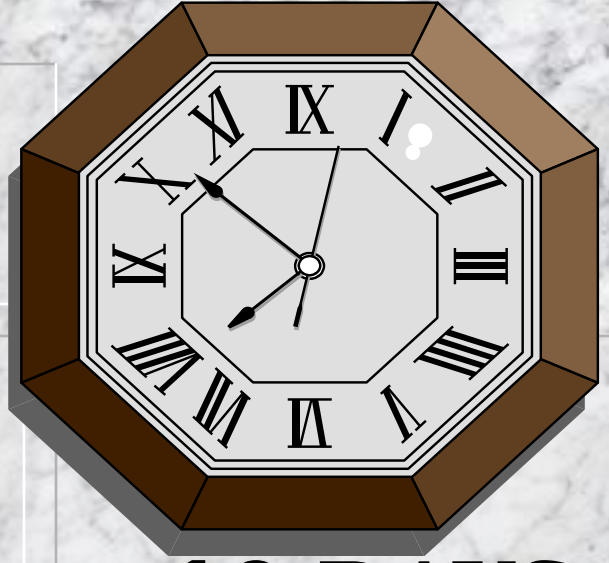


DO 2

- CONSULTS
  - Mental Health Professional
  - Service Member of Rights
- LETTERS
  - Service Member of Evaluation
  - Requesting Evaluation via SG & Mental Health
- REPORTS
  - Feedback and Copy to Service Member
  - Letter to Commander
- 2 DAYS NOTIFICATION

LOOK BOTH WAYS

- To **CL**ea**R**, LOOK BOTH WAYS
  - In each process a task must be done
  - In both the command direction and service member's direction
  - For each, there is a required consultation, formal letter, and sending of a report



THE CDE CLOCK IS TICKING

- **10 DAYS -START TO FINISH**
- **FINISH WITH FEEDBACK TO MEMBER**
- **1 DAY AFTER FINISH, TO GIVE COMMANDER ORAL FEEDBACK**

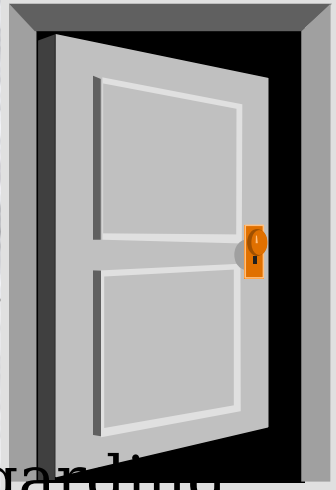
REASONS FOR CDE

- **F**itness for continued duty in unit
- **S**uitability for continued military duty
- **R**eliable for security, PRP, etc
- Need mental health treatment,
  - hospitalization
  - drug or alcohol
- Fi**S**su**R**e (mnemonic)

REASONS **NOT** TO DO A CDE

- **NOT A “BACK DOOR” TO COUNSELING**
- **NOT TO “COVER ALL BASES” FOR ADMIN SEPARATION**
- **NOT IF SEPARATION IS DECIDED AND SEEKING SUPPORT FOR THIS ACTION**
- **NOT A PUNITIVE MEASURE FOR CALLING IG OR CONGRESSMAN**

CONSULT A MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER

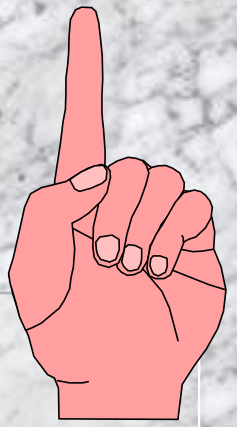


2 CLeaR

- Consult the mental health provider regarding concerns
- Assess appropriateness and if there is a more direct way of meeting the commanders needs
- mental health provider must approve for the process to continue
- Send “Quick Guide” package
- Consider reasons for CDE like Fit, Suitable, or Reliable

(FiSsu Re)

CONSULT-MEMBERS RIGHTS



2 CLeaR

- Speak to an attorney
- Submit to DoD or IG if fearing CDE is reprisal
- Get a second opinion
- Right to communicate with IG, member of congress, chaplain, attorney
- 2 business days notification before appointment
- If compliance with above impractical, reasons my be given in writing

LETTER REQUESTING CDE

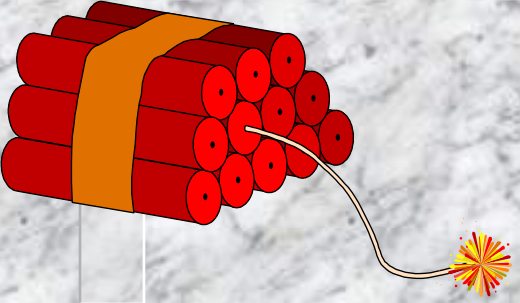
- Formal letter routed through the hospital commander (SG)
- Information concerning specific behavior and reason for CDE
- Mental health provider consulted

LETTER TO MEMBER

- Time, date, location of appointment
- Mental health professional consulted
- Mental health professional scheduled
- Numbers & names of SJA, IG, ADC
- Copy of members rights
- Form for signed notification
- Behavior that is the focus of the evaluation

REPORTS

- Feedback and copy to member
  - This is the last step in completion of the evaluation of the CDE
  - 10 duty day clock to complete
- Routed through the hospital commander (SG)
  - Signed by MDOS commander ONLY if recommending separation, PDO, dangerousness

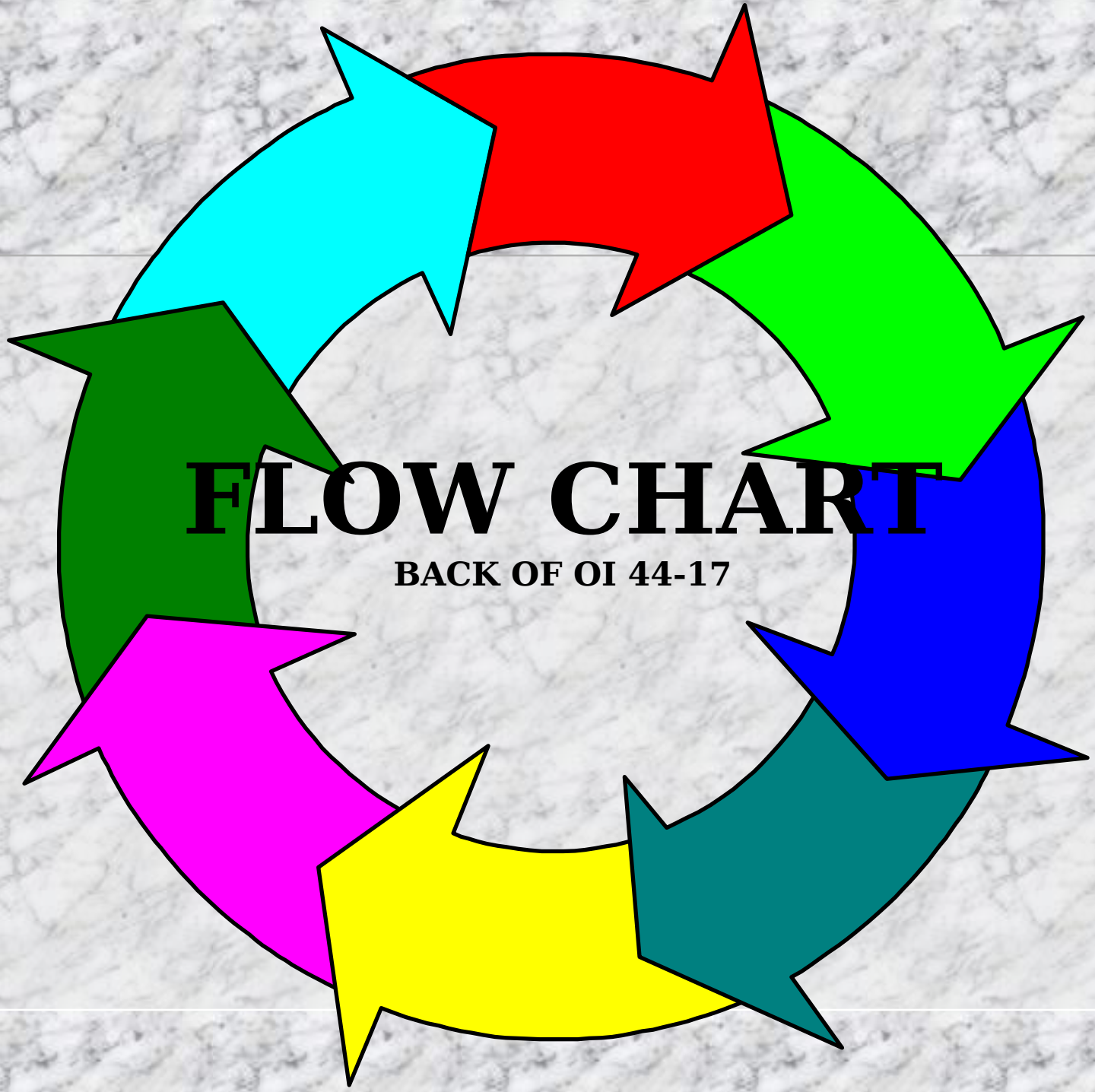


EMERGENCY CDE

- A situation in which a service member is **threatening imminently, by word or actions,** to harm himself, herself, or others, to destroy property under circumstances likely to lead to serious personal injury or death, and to delay a mental health evaluation to complete administrative requirements could further endanger the services member's life of well being, or the wellbeing of potential victims. An emergency with respect to self may be also construed to mean an incapacity by the individual to care for him or herself, such as not eating or drinking; sleeping in Inappropriate places or not maintaining a regular sleep schedule; not bathing, defecating or urinating in inappropriate places (DoDI 6490.1)

HANDLING A CDE EMERGENCY

- Safety first
  - based on clinical information
- IF PRACTICAL, continue with ALL requirements (Members rights, letter from commander, etc)
- Commander needs to document why normal procedures could not be accomplished
- AS SOON AS PRACTICAL, complete all requirements
- WRMC requires a letter from commander for directed admission



FLOW CHART

BACK OF OI 44-17